



International Sister Cities of Rochester News

Volume 17, No. 2

Autumn 2007

Letter from the President

It is my pleasure to give the annual report for International Sister Cities of Rochester for the past year. I think it is particularly significant since we will be celebrating our fiftieth anniversary during this upcoming year.

I am happy to report that International Sister Cities of Rochester remains healthy, active and growing.

Since we met here one year ago this week, many exciting activities have taken place. I would like to share some of those activities:

Concerning our relationship with Hamamatsu, Japan and Shizuoka Province – Junko Mills, Maurine Johnson and their committee hosted a 92 person delegation, including a full junior orchestra, which performed an outstanding concert at Hochstein Music School. Also, working with George Eisen and the Center for International Education at Nazareth College, we met a delegation from Shizuoka University as they explored a relationship between their respective universities.

In April, the Waterford Rochester Sister Cities Committee, under the leadership of John Kavanaugh and Patricia O'Reilly, hosted the Deputy Mayor and a delegation from Waterford, and, along with Mayor Duffy, participated in a reaffirmation

ceremony celebrating the upcoming twenty-fifth anniversary of that relationship. The annual charity golf tournament was also held at Ravenwood Golf Club in conjunction with that visit. Many sister cities folks are looking forward to visiting Waterford next spring to celebrate the anniversary there, also.

On the very same day as the Waterford ceremony, the ambassador from Mali visited Rochester to participate in the graduation ceremony for several Malian students at RIT. Clyde Forbes and his Bamako-Rochester Sister Cities committee hosted a reception for the ambassador and the students.

The Rehovot-Rochester Sister Cities Committee celebrated its thirty-fifth anniversary with a program right here in the atrium. A presentation on the resettlement of Ethiopian Jews in Rehovot was very moving, and, under the leadership of Jo Anne Prives, the committee is undertaking a project in support of that program.

After a period of quiescence, the Puerto-Plata Rochester Sister Cities Committee is once again active. We held a series of meeting beginning last may and concluding earlier this month. Chairperson Australia Estrella and past chairperson Angel Estrella helped organize a rejuvenated committee and a new slate of officers, headed by chairperson Relton Roland are now moving forward. We are all excited

Continued on page 2



The Rochester Wheels and wheelchair basketball teams from other countries practice in a gym in Rennes, France. See page 5 for more information about this visit!

In this issue...

*Visitors from Xianyang, China-
page 3

* Remembering Marcia Payne
Page 4

* Rennes-Rochester news-
page 5

* Friendship Committee for Alytus, Lithuania- page 6

*Tribute to Lois Geiss - page 7

* Report from the Waterford Committee-page 8

President's Letter continued

to be supporting these efforts.

The Velikey Novgorod committee, under the leadership of Paul Caccamise has continued to sponsor, with Linkages, regular presentations at the Brighton Town Hall. Another trip to Novgorod may occur next spring.

Wurzburg, under the leadership of Otto and Edie Fuchs, Krakow, under the leadership of Michael Leach, and Caltanisetta, under the leadership of Rosalba Pisaturao, all have been meeting regularly, planning and implementing activities, and looking to the future.

One of the very exciting prospects for 2008, in addition to the fiftieth anniversary of ISCOR, is the fiftieth anniversary of the Rennes-Rochester Sister Cities Committee. Under the dynamic leadership of Terry Mathews De Sant, the Rennes Committee is planning a major series of celebrations. Rennes was our first sister city and almost was the first sister city for the entire country. Visitors from Rennes and Rochesterians going to Rennes will make 2008 an exciting year for this relationship.

We also have two friendship committees moving toward Sister City status. Xianyang, China is just about there. Under the leadership of Mike Coniff and Dalei Huang, a visit was made to Xianyang to explore a project designed to help the environment there. Just last month the committee hosted a group of high school students here in Rochester. It is very likely that Xianyang will become Rochester's eleventh sister city very soon.

The other friendship committee is with the city of Alytus, Lithuania. Led by Rimantas Chesonis, this group is also following all the guidelines designed to lead to sister city status.

We have had a full and exciting year. I have not described every activity by every Sister City Committee, but I hope that you can grasp the flavor of all these citizen volunteer efforts and also get a feel for the magnitude of the efforts.

I would like to give some special recognition to a few additional people for their contributions during this past year.

First, I would like to recognize Karolina Fero for her many years of service to the ISCOR board. Karolina has been a member of the board for over 14 years and has served with distinction. We will miss your professionalism and frequent contributions at our meetings.

I would also like to single out Michael Leach. In addition to serving as the chair of the Krakow committee, Mike serves as the Treasurer for ISCOR, and as a liaison from City Hall. It is probably no surprise to any of you that Mike Leach is the oil that makes all the gears turn for ISCOR (and we all know how valuable oil is these days.)

I would also like to thank John Nyergs for his renderings at the piano this evening. And I would like to publicly thank Jean Howard, Chief of Staff to Mayor Duffy and the mayor's liaison to ISCOR, and her executive assistant, Richelle Rodgers for all their work in coordinating and facilitating tonight's festivities. Please join me in expressing our gratitude to them.

Finally, thanks to all of you for coming out tonight. This is a bigger crowd than many years. I know that having an opportunity to honor Lois Giess played a huge role in that. I would like to share with you all that, although Lois is retiring from her leadership role with City Council, she has agreed to join

the board of International Sister Cities of Rochester as an at-large member. City Council's loss will become Sister Cities gain.

Please stay and enjoy the remainder of the reception. Thank you again for your support of International Sister Cities of Rochester.



Upcoming Events

NOV 27-28 TUE-WED - Shea's Performing Arts Center, Buffalo (Ticketmaster). Mazowsze song and dance ensemble of Poland.

DEC 8 SAT - 5:30 pm - Eisenhart Auditorium, Rochester Museum and Science Center. Krakow Creche display and Wigilia dinner. Reservations 271-4320. \$30 adults; student and children discounts.

DEC 9 SUN - 3:00 pm - Strong Auditorium, UR River Campus. Free. Violin Recital by Alexander Styk with Oleksandra Yurchenko (piano).

Alexander Styk is a 15-year-old violin prodigy from Pittsford, NY, (son of KRSCC members Dorothy and George Styk) and a winner of three Polish Heritage Society of Rochester Scholarships, three Fortissimo! competitions, and many other awards. In 2005 he performed with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. He will play music of Wieniawski, Mozart, Lalo, Ravel, and Monti.



Visitors from China by Mike Coniff

The last week of September and the first week of October saw the visit of nine students, an English teacher and two government officials from Xianyang China as part of the Xianyang Rochester Friendship Committee program. Their visit began in grand form, with a welcome at Aquinas Institute including a welcome salute by the Aquinas Band. The students were hosted by Aquinas families, whose students have been communicating with Xianyang students via e-mail for several months. The Chinese students enjoyed a week and a half of American hospitality, visiting several area schools and traveling with their sponsor families to local sites. They even saddled up in "Clean Sweep" tee shirts for Downtown Clean Sweep with Mayor Duffy!

Li Suying, leader of the

Photos: *above left*: The Aquinas band plays for the Xianyang delegation. *Above right*: Students from Xianyang gather with students from Aquinas in the school's student union. *Right*: Aquinas principal Dennis Sadler greets a visitor from Xianyang. *Left*: Li Suying, Chief of Foreign Affairs for the Xianyang government speaks at a press conference.

delegation, Chief of Foreign Affairs for the Xianyang government, had several important meetings while in Rochester. She visited the Rochester Museum and Science Center to talk about an ancient Chinese exhibit to visit here, as well as Xianyang sponsoring a Rochester exhibit in China. She met Dr. Nabil Nasr, director of the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Sciences at RIT to talk about student and teacher exchanges as well as specialists visiting Xianyang to assist in pollution problems. This was followed up by a meeting with the local citizens environmental organization, Sierra Club. Discussions here focused on local support to citizen involvement in environmental concerns in Xianyang and other parts of China.

The visit was capped off with a welcome dinner with over

175 well wishers in attendance. That evening was capped off with an impromptu singing performance of a Chinese folk song by the visiting students - they brought the house down!

Students at both Aquinas and Webster high schools are now planning a reciprocal visit to Xianyang in April. Committee co-chairs Dalei Huang and Mike Coniff are hopeful that the current activity is sufficient to bring this friendship relationship to a full sister city recognition.



Remembering Marcia Payne



The Rennes-Rochester Sister Cities Committee wishes to express its sadness at the passing of a dear and beloved friend.

Marcia Payne passed away on Thursday, July 12, 2007, after devoting her entire adult life to the mission of world peace through people-to-people exchanges. As an ambitious young woman in the late 1950's, Marcia began her career as a citizen diplomat by becoming involved in the "twinning" of Rochester's first Sister City, Rennes, France. Marcia devoted years of her life to this committee and encouraged many successful people-to-people exchanges throughout the years.

During her extensive traveling experiences all over the world with her husband, Charles Fairfax Payne, better known as "Red", Marcia initiated the summer exchange programs between teenagers in Rochester, NY and Rennes, France, and also in Turkey, in Wurzburg, Germany and in Caltanissetta, Italy. These exchanges are under the umbrella of ATAD, the Association of Teen-Age Diplomats, and are still active today.

In the early sixties, Marcia became the second president of the Rennes-Rochester Sister Cities Committee, and carried on an active relationship with Rennes for many years, encouraging exchanges in all areas of life. Like President Eisenhower, who began the Sister Cities movement, Marcia



Marcia Payne at City Hall in 2005.

firmly believed that friendship with our neighbors abroad was the only way to keep our world together. It was her belief that if individuals from foreign lands got together as friends, so eventually would nations. Her many trips around the world were proof of her desire to meet and communicate with different people from different cultures and traditions.

Even after Red passed away, Marcia continued to travel. One day, she excitedly announced to her friends that she was going to visit China. Marcia was in her eighties at the time. Wherever Marcia went, her enthusiasm and love of mankind followed. In December 2002, at the age of 91, Marcia joined Cathy Nye, Vice-President of the Rennes- Rochester Sister Cities Committee and Terry Mathews- DeSant, President, on her last trip to Rennes, where she participated in the 40th anniversary celebrations of the Franco-American Institute, the bi-national educational complex in Rennes that she so loved and faithfully supported.

Marcia was looking forward to being a member of the 2008 Rochester delegation, returning to France to celebrate the 50th an-

niversary of the "jumelage" (twinning). Sadly, she missed it by one year.

If anyone who knew Marcia wishes to contribute something in her memory, she designated two organizations for her memorial gifts. Not surprisingly, both organizations are devoted to international exchange, understanding and friendship.

1. The Marcia Payne Account
Rochester Area Community Foundation
500 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14607
2. The Marcia Payne Memorial fund
American Friends of the Franco-American Institute
108 Mill Street
Saranac, MI 48881

Both are public charities approved by the IRS under Section 509 (a) (3) .

The first one supports the Rochester Sister Cities programs. The second one supports the Franco-American Institute in Rennes, France.

Rennes- Rochester Committee

Highlights of 2007

During February break, French teacher and RRSCC member Jennifer Rybak escorted twelve Aquinas Institute students to France, with the assistance of five enthusiastic parents.

This was the second half of a two year exchange program between Aquinas Institute, which is located on Dewey Avenue in Rochester, and St. Vincent High School in Rennes. The Rochester group raised funds for a year and the students were rewarded for their hard work with five exciting days touring Paris and the Loire Valley before arriving in Rennes. There, they had a happy reunion with old friends.

In western France, the Rochester students saw the historic neighborhoods of Rennes and also visited the Memorial Museum in Caen, Omaha Beach in Normandy, the famous abbey of Mont St. Michel and the old walled city of Saint Malo. Of course, they also attended classes at St. Vincent High School and learned about life at a lycée (high school) in France.

On March 28, eight members of the Rochester Wheels, a wheelchair basketball team, flew to France to participate in the Sister Cities Wheelchair Basketball Tournament in Rennes. The Wheels played teams from Louvin (Belgium), Rennes and Ljubljana (Slovenia) and participated in a follow-up discussion forum regarding the role of sports in the lives of people with disabilities.



Above: The athletes visit Rennes town square.

The team also had the opportunity to visit some historic sites in Rennes and around western France. Terry Mathews-DeSant (President of RRSCC), Ray Griswold (Sports Coordinator), and Ron Dufort (Webmaster) accompanied the team and their coach, Steve Barbato, and they were joined by Charlie Schiano, Sr., past coach of the Wheels.

The Wheels have been active for over thirty years. They work with Sports Net, a program of Rochester Rehabilitation. Current players include individuals from Monroe County, Buffalo and Syracuse.

The team members were welcomed warmly in France and had an unforgettable time. Terry Mathews-DeSant wrote back to friends and supporters in Rochester:

"When the games were over, it was kisses and hand-shakes and expressions of love and joy on the faces of all 40 players. No one knew nor cared who was from Slovenia, France, Belgium or America; we all were winners and great friends. The different languages being spoken were definitely not evident as all the team players exchanged hugs, pins, and gifts with one another as they bid farewell. The winning team from Ljubljana even gave everyone a sample of their very special, home-made wine as a token of their friendship.

We have made life-long friendships with people from all over the world who are physically challenged and

who are sharing the same goals and dreams as we are."

On May 19, two members of our committee answered Mayor Duffy's call for volunteers to help spruce up Rochester. Ray Griswold and Sue Hickey were part of Operation Clean Sweep and worked with Mike Leach and an enthusiastic team of volunteers on Merchants Road.

On July 15, members of the RRSCC and summer exchange students from France, along with many friends from ATAD, celebrated at the Conesus Lake home of our member Ray Griswold and his wife Valerie. Our young French visitors were delighted with the offer of a sailboat ride and the hearty western New York picnic fare. Yes, we were celebrating France's Bastille Day holiday one day late, but no one in Rennes could have sung the Marsellaise more gallantly than our group that weekend.

On August 24, we welcomed this year's exchange students from the Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (INSA), located in Rennes, who will be spending several months at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Our committee was able to help with some bus station arrivals, and we also organized a welcoming picnic on September 8 at the home of our webmaster, Ron Dufort. The students, who are in their early twenties, always enjoy visiting American homes. If you would like to meet one of them, please contact Terry Mathews DeSant at

Continued on page 6

Rennes continued from page 5

<TerryMD@rochester.rr.com>.

On September 5, Christiane and Jacques Botrel from Paris and Rennes, France, arrived in Rochester for a people-to-people friendly visit. Christiane is the daughter of the late Victor Janton, Vice-Mayor of Rennes in the 60¹s and 70¹s. She was a volunteer at the Franco-American Institute in Rennes in the sixties, years before her father became the Chairman of the Institute's Board in the late seventies. She worked in the American Embassy in Paris until her retirement in 1995 and is presently a member of the Board at the Franco-American Institute in Rennes.

Christiane was a life-long friend of the late Marcia Payne, an early pillar of the Rennes-Rochester Sister Cities Committee, ATAD and ISCOR. She and her husband had planned to visit Marcia at her summer home on Canandaigua Lake, but sadly, Marcia passed away in July 2007, two months before the Botrels¹ visit. Deeply saddened by this news, the Botrels had a difficult decision to make. They decided not to cancel and to come to Rochester anyway.

They were the guests of Terry Mathews-DeSant, President of the Rennes-Rochester Sister Cities Committee, and her husband, Guy DeSant. During their stay, the Botrels attended the trial runs at the Rochester Yacht Club for the IFDS Disabled Sailing World championship of 2007. They planned to meet and greet the nine participants from Brittany, and especially Julien Chagny, the only contestant from Rennes.

The evening before their departure, the couple was honored by the Rennes-Rochester Sister

Cities Committee at an evening reception at Terry and Guy's home.

There will be more news soon from the RRSCC. Our fiftieth anniversary is fast approaching! Did you know that Rennes, France, was Rochester's first Sister City? In 1958, Rochester's mayor, Peter Barry, welcomed the mayor of Rennes, the Honorable Henri Freville, and an official delegation from France. The Rennes-Rochester Sister Cities Committee will be welcoming French visitors again in the spring of 2008, and many of us with travel with an official Rochester delegation to Rennes a few months later. There will be much more news about these happy events in the months to come.

Friendship Committee for Alytus, Lithuania by Rimas Chesonis

We have been in charity mode recently as one of the main employers in Alytus, the textile company "Alytaus Textile" has filed bankruptcy causing 1200 people to lose their jobs. In a city with a population of 70,000, it has a very severe impact compounded by the fact that for 6 months prior to the bankruptcy, employees were not being paid.

We have sent boxes of toys for the children of poor families for Christmas, some money to the families with many children and walkers to the local nursing home.

Planning a Trip and Need a U. S. Passport? City Hall Can Help!

Is overseas travel in your plans? If so, and if you don't have a valid United States Passport, City Hall can help.

More than ever, passports are becoming useful for identification and, as a result of the federal government's Western Hemisphere Initiative, they are becoming a travel necessity. During 2008, it is expected that federal rules will require Americans to have a U. S. Passport if they travel outside of America.

Because of these federal requirements, the number of applications and the time required for U. S. Passport Services to process them are increasing; it can take up to 10 weeks to receive your new passport in the mail.

The fee for a U. S. passport is \$97 for persons 16 years of age and older (valid for 10 years), and \$82 for persons 15 years of age and under (valid for 5 years). To apply, or to find out information about applying, stop in the City Hall Licensing Office, 30 Church Street, Room 100A, or call the office at (585) 428-6617. The Licensing Office can also arrange for groups to sign up for passports together at a convenient time and location.

Dan Karin, City Clerk

Tribute to Lois Giess

My friend Lois Giess is a true public servant because she always makes time for things she thinks are important. Most people know Lois as the East District Councilmember (since 1986) and President of the Rochester City Council (since 1994). Far fewer people know that Lois has spent considerable time promoting people-to-people ties and exporting Rochester's many virtues across national borders.

Lois tells me that she caught the international "bug" at age 18 when she traveled to Switzerland, and spent the Summer living and traveling (which included a climb of one of the Alps!) with a family there.

She has been a very active member of the International Sister Cities of Rochester (ISCOR) board for more than a decade. As part of this service, Lois has served on countless ad hoc committees, helping to improve ISCOR bylaws, and spent countless hours nurturing new volunteers and arranging social and educational activities.

Since her first overseas first adventure, Lois has returned the kindness she received in Switzerland by hosting numerous overseas families in her home. As Council President she has welcomed numerous official delegations to Rochester and explained Rochester's local government to literally thousands of foreign visitors to City Hall, most recently a group of Chinese students from Xianyang.

Lois has traveled with the official delegation from Rochester to several of our Sister Cities, including a trip with former Mayor Bill Johnson, myself, and several other persons to explore the creation of a new twin in Xianyang. Always preferring to stay with a family when she travels overseas rather than in a hotel, Lois is a true representative of person-to-person diplomacy.

A number of us will miss her when she retires from Council at the end of the year. But I'm sure she will continue working on projects she thinks are important, and that Sister Cities will be on her short list.

Carolee A. Conklin
ISCOR Vice President

ISCOR Annual Reception

Lois Giess was honored for her work with ISCOR during the Annual Reception in October.

Top Right: Lee Johnson, Mayor Robert Duffy and Carolee Conklin present a gift to Lois Giess.

Bottom Right: Carolee Conklin, Lois, her son, Jay and grandson open the gift presented to Lois during the reception.

Bottom Left: Lois Giess chats with Ted and Bridgie McGraw.





1983 Rochester-Waterford sister cities relationship reaffirmed May 25, 2007. l-r, Richard Fanning, Waterford; Waterford Deputy Mayor Davey Daniels; Rochester Mayor Robert J. Duffy; Mary Daniels, Waterford; Rochester City Council President Lois Giess; Patricia O'Reilly, Rochester; WRSCC Chairman John Kavanaugh; Marty O'Keefe, Rochester.

Report from the Waterford Committee

by John Kavanaugh

When Mayor Robert Duffy and wife Barbara welcomed Deputy Mayor Davey Daniels, his wife Mary and Dick Fanning to his home, over the Memorial Day weekend, he became the third Rochester Mayor to give his imprimatur to the Waterford-Rochester Sister-City relationship. It was initiated by Mayor Tom Ryan in the mid eighties and expanded during Bill Johnson's tenure, with the annual golf tournament giving additional strength to the partnership. The mayor and his wife had invited their guests to an evening of dining and discussion (and probably humor). Planning for the future took place and it was decided that the time had come for the renewal of the Sister City Compact. On the following day, a group of approximately fifty witnesses gathered at City Hall to observe Deputy Mayor Daniels and Mayor Duffy cosign the appropriate documents and then exchange gifts.

The social hour naturally followed with old friends reunited and new friendships formed. Deputy Mayor Daniels then announced that Rochesterians would be welcomed to Waterford in 2008, the 25th anniversary of the pact.

With business completed, the Irish trio spent the next day touring the waters of Niagara Falls and the waters of the Finger Lakes, rooted for the Red Wings (with Davy throwing out the first ball- a strike), then toured the Bausch and Lomb plant and Memorial Art Gallery (with its magnificent organ) and other stops along the way. Only one problem arose. On the return from the Falls, it was not a case of "no room at the inn", all the inns were closed due to the holiday. The problem was solved when the Irish trio, who were the first Europeans to dine at the Eileen Fee Steak House, were served Wegman's finest steaks and all the trimmings. The Finger Lakes trip went more smoothly under the direction of Scott Minty, Vice President of North Lakes Wines. The guests dined at the Culinary Institute in Canandaigua, received gifts from the shop located there and

then toured the Windmer Winery. While at the Winery, each one was allotted one hundred dollars worth of wines of their choice, again a gift of Mr. Minty. A scenic tour of the Finger Lakes area completed the day.

"Great Things Can Come From Small Beginnings
by Liam Sullivan

The year was 1987 and Rochester City Council Member Joan Hensler was in a pinch. Nearly thirty overseas guests were coming from Waterford, Ireland as part of an International Sister Cities program and there was no plan to entertain them.

Joan contacted me and asked if a few local citizens of Irish descent might host a Pot Luck dinner at a local church. I contacted Joe O'Heaney and suggested we host them for dinner at the Monroe County Club.

We had no funds so we asked each American to buy dinner for two and it was a great success. The following day we arranged tee times for about fifty golfers. The following year, we were invited to Ireland by Paul Nolan where Martin Tritschler and Tim McCarthy agreed to use this event to raise funds for charity. Eventually this became the Tom Murphy Car Sales Golf Tournament held every other year in Waterford.

Since then our tournaments have raised nearly \$400,000 to help a wide variety of charitable organizations in both cities. Our tournament improved greatly when Jim Lynch "agreed" to become chairman in 1996. Jim learned he had "agreed" to do this when it was announced at the Lord's Mayor's Charity Ball in Waterford. Over the years we made great friends across the waters and the past twenty years has served to enhance that friendship."

Liam made reference in his



Mayor Robert J. Duffy and Waterford Deputy Mayor Davey Daniels reaffirm the 1983 Rochester-Waterford sister cities relationship, May 25, 2007.

article above to Great Things. At first thoughts, the "Great Things" would be the \$400,000 plus the \$50,000 (raised this year) derived from the tournaments and there is truth to that, since every dollar goes to assist physically handicapped children or to organizations which serve those in need. And yet there is another "Great Thing" which is so obvious that is overlooked. Tom Murphy and Liam Sullivan have remained faithful to the cause for over twenty years. Other leaders responded to the cause and contributed time and effort to maintain and improve the program. And there are committee members who start their involvement shortly after the New Year and work until the last putt drops into the eighteenth cup. It might be said that for the golfers themselves, it is just another round of golf, but many adjust their schedules so they can participate every year, and those who leave are replaced by new entrants because it is a cause they all want to support. Money is a good thing, but dedication to a cause is better. This is reflected in sponsorships. The 2007 Tournament saw Bausch and Lomb as the major sponsor along with other organizations too numerous to mention. Each donated money because

that is a good thing to do, but in so doing they state their support for the good of assisting deserving human beings in need. Every person, group and organization referred to here deserves to be honored, but each would reject the attention. They do it, and will continue to do it, because it is the thing to do.

This year's tournament was dedicated to the memory of Martin Frances Birmingham who was the epitome of the thoughts reference above. He understood that money was necessary, but money was "good" when it was used to promote good causes. His life was based upon that belief and while many of his donations were made public, there were many that were never known. His death was most certainly a loss, but his life lives on as an example for anyone who wishes to follow his path, the right path, the noble path.

A special acknowledgement is due to Chairman Burke McCarthy. After his first year's success in that role, he stated that the tournament will go on "for twenty more years." With the champion golf courses, the professional brochures, the excellent menus and superb entertainment, (including the amateur) the committee may force him to accept a lifetime appointment.

The recent death of Fr. John Cavanaugh C.S.B., has saddened the entire community, but was softened somewhat by the belief that God and John agreed that he go home, since he had given all he had to give to church and school, organizations and individuals too numerous to mention. First of all, he was and is "a priest forever" according to the standard of Melchisadec. After that, he was a man of the people sharing his brilliant mind and gentle nature with an inability to say "No" whether it was a celebration of a mass, par-

ticipation in Irish social affairs, book reviews and organizational requests including their formation such as the Irish American Cultural Institute for which he was a prime mover. Fr. Cavanaugh was also instrumental in organizing the Waterford-Rochester Sister Cities Committee. His gentle nature however, was coupled with his sense of humor, and one had to be always on guard against his dry wit which could launch a gentle barb toward one with no change in his demeanor. His dedication to all things Irish was complete; perhaps at this very moment he is requesting the angelic harpist to "play a piece or two" of Irish music.

Anne Kelly has offered an Irish saying that is sometimes said upon a person's death: "TROIC-AIRE DIA AR A ANAM" (God's Mercy on this Soul). It's safe to say that Fr. John Cavanaugh C.S.B. has enjoyed God's love since the day he was born; God's mercy is needed by the rest of us.

Another loss comes with Jim Dooher, one of the charter members of the Waterford Committee and its financial director who passed away recently. He differed little from his co-members; he cherished his church, his family and his friends, but he was somewhat unique in one of his charitable works. For many, many years, he was the Baker of Bread, producing dozens of loaves of bread at Easter time. They became gifts for neighbors, friends and those in need. This was truly the Bread of Life; he was truly the Good Samaritan.

In closing, let's take the time to celebrate Marty O'Keefe who continues to fiddle his way through life, as he celebrated his 95th birthday in early November. Best wishes from all the Irish and all the non-Irish here and in the homeland.

Rochester-Wuerzburg Committee Report

We are happy to report that a student from Wuerzburg is attending Sutherland High School for the school year and is staying with a host family in Pittsford. Also, this past summer a student from Sutherland spent six weeks with a host family in Wuerzburg. This was a first for the 6-week program and hopefully it will be continued.

This past Fall we had the privilege to attend Wuerzburg's bi-yearly Mainfranken Messe on the day that was dedicated as the "Rochester Day". Our committee members, Dean and Judy Ekberg were also visiting Wuerzburg during the Mainfranken Messe. We were dinner guests hosted by the Office of the International Relations and Mayor Marion Schaefer.

During the recent Irondequoit Oktoberfest event, we had a display table with information about Sister Cities in general and in particular about Wuerzburg, and we were able to recruit some people who expressed an interest to join our committee. We hereby thank Mr. Mike Spang, Director of Parks & Recreation in Irondequoit - who is a "supporting member" of our committee for giving us the opportunity to set up a display table at the Oktoberfest.

Submitted by
Edie & Otto Fuchs

Experience an Evening of Wigilia (Polish Christmas Eve) Traditions at the RMSC

The Polish Heritage Society of Rochester and the Rochester Museum & Science Center present A Polish Wigilia, an evening of Polish Christmas Eve traditions, complete with family-style dinner, on Saturday, December 8 from 5:30 to 9pm at the RMSC's Eisenhart Auditorium.

"Wigilia" comes from the Latin word "Vigilare," meaning



"to await." The actual Wigilia celebration begins on December 24th when the first star in the east (Gwiazdka) is seen. The December 8 program includes a traditional, family-style dinner and a display of Krakovian Creches (szopki), elaborate constructions created through a folk art form dating back to the Middle Ages. Guests will enjoy Polish carols and a narration about Polish culture and customs, as well as a visit from St. Nicholas.

Admission is \$30 for adults, \$15 for students ages 11-21 (with ID), \$10 for children ages 5-10, and free for children under 5. Reservations are required: call (585)697-1942. Tables will be assigned in the order reservations are received.

ZIMTSTERNE - CINNAMON STARS

3 egg whites - 2 cups/250 g confectionary sugar - 1 1/2 cups/250 g ground almonds - grated zest of one lemon - 2 tsp cinnamon - sugar and flour for rolling out.

Beat the egg whites until very stiff. Gradually add the confectionary sugar. Set aside 4 tbsp of the egg white mixture for glazing. Mix in the ground almond, lemon zest and cinnamon, and knead the dough lightly. Dust the work surface with sugar and flour and roll out the dough. Cut out star shapes using a cookie cutter. Line a cookie sheet with baking parchment and place the stars on this. Brush with the glaze and bake at 300 degrees for 20 minutes.

Recipe compliments of Edie Fuchs